

February 4, 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Commission Secretary, Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
445 12th Street
CY-B402
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Proceeding 03-16

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to you today to ask your serious consideration and support of SBC Michigan's application for entry into the long-distance market.

SBC Michigan has been actively interested in and involved in the initiative to provide interLATA, and long-distance communication services in Michigan. They have, over the past three years, worked with an independent third party and the Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC) community to evaluate and improve their operations support systems. In addition, they have shown evidence that their network is open to competitors on a non-discriminatory basis.

I have had numerous opportunities to speak with a number of constituents who are currently employed by SBC Michigan in regard to this issue. Their concerns are in accordance with that of SBC - specifically that they would like to see SBC able to compete for long-distance services to consumers. I share their viewpoint on this matter and am looking forward to the benefits for Michigan's citizens resulting from competition in both local and long-distance telecommunications markets that will occur upon FCC approval of SBC Michigan's application.

I am hopeful that the Federal Communications Commission will give serious consideration of SBC Michigan's application in regard to their authorization to provide interLATA, and long-distance communication services in Michigan.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. If I may ever be of any assistance, please feel free to contact me at (517) 373-2668.

Sincerely,

Jerry O. Kooiman
State Representative
District 75